

CLAIMS

What is claimed is:

1. A method for administration of keyboard input in a computer having a display device supporting a graphical user interface ("GUI"), the method comprising:

storing keyboard input intended by a user for a second widget when keyboard
5 focus is on a first widget, wherein the first widget receives no keyboard input;

changing keyboard focus to the second widget; and

providing the stored keyboard input to the second widget.
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2. The method of claim 1 further comprising prompting the user for an indication whether to provide the stored keyboard input to the second widget, including receiving the indication in response to the prompting, wherein providing the stored keyboard input to the second widget further comprises providing the
5 stored keyboard input to the second widget in dependence upon the indication.
3. The method of claim 2 wherein:

changing keyboard focus to the second widget further comprises a keyboard
device driver's receiving a request for keyboard input data;
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receiving the indication in response to the prompting further comprises the keyboard device driver's receiving an indication to provide the stored keyboard input to the second widget; and

10 providing the keyboard input to the second widget in dependence upon the indication further comprises the keyboard device driver's returning the stored

keyboard input to the requesting application.

4. The method of claim 1 wherein storing keyboard input intended by a user for a second widget when keyboard focus is on a first widget further comprises reading keyboard input through a keyboard device driver.

5. The method of claim 1 wherein storing keyboard input intended by a user for a second widget when keyboard focus is on a first widget further comprises a keyboard device driver's reading input data from a keyboard, including reading the input in the absence of a read request for the keyboard device driver.

6. The method of claim 1 wherein changing keyboard focus further comprises changing keyboard focus in response to the user's manipulating at least one user input device.

7. The method of claim 1 wherein the GUI includes a multiplicity of windows, the method further comprising:

directing keyboard focus to a window having a keyboard focus policy and a multiplicity of widgets including the first widget and the second widget; and

directing keyboard focus to the first widget in dependence upon the keyboard focus policy of the window.

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8. A system for administration of keyboard input in a computer having a display device supporting a graphical user interface ("GUI"), the system comprising:

means for storing keyboard input intended by a user for a second widget when keyboard focus is on a first widget, wherein the first widget receives no keyboard input;

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means for changing keyboard focus to the second widget; and

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means for providing the stored keyboard input to the second widget.

9. The system of claim 8 further comprising means for prompting the user for an indication whether to provide the stored keyboard input to the second widget, including means for receiving the indication in response to operation of the means for prompting, wherein means for providing the stored keyboard input to the second widget further comprises means for providing the stored keyboard input to the second widget in dependence upon the indication.

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10. The system of claim 9 wherein:

means for changing keyboard focus to the second widget further comprises means for receiving a request for keyboard input data;

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means for receiving the indication in response to the prompting further comprises means for receiving an indication to provide the stored keyboard input to the second widget; and

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means for providing the keyboard input to the second widget in dependence upon the indication further comprises means for returning the stored keyboard input to the requesting application.

11. The system of claim 8 wherein means for storing keyboard input intended by a user for a second widget when keyboard focus is on a first widget further comprises means for reading keyboard input through a keyboard device driver.
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12. The system of claim 8 wherein means for storing keyboard input intended by a user for a second widget when keyboard focus is on a first widget further comprises means for reading input data from a keyboard, including means for reading the input in the absence of a read request for the keyboard device driver.
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13. The system of claim 8 wherein means for changing keyboard focus further comprises means for changing keyboard focus in response to the manipulation of at least one user input device.
14. The system of claim 8 wherein the GUI includes a multiplicity of windows, the system further comprising:
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- means for directing keyboard focus to a window having a keyboard focus policy and a multiplicity of widgets including the first widget and the second widget; and
- means for directing keyboard focus to the first widget in dependence upon the keyboard focus policy of the window.

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15. A computer program product for administration of keyboard input in a computer having a display device supporting a graphical user interface (“GUI”), the computer program product comprising:

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a recording medium;

means, recorded on the recording medium, for storing keyboard input intended by a user for a second widget when keyboard focus is on a first widget, wherein the first widget receives no keyboard input;

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means, recorded on the recording medium, for changing keyboard focus to the second widget; and

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means, recorded on the recording medium, for providing the stored keyboard input to the second widget.

16. The computer program product of claim 15 further comprising means, recorded on the recording medium, for prompting the user for an indication whether to provide the stored keyboard input to the second widget, including means, recorded on the recording medium, for receiving the indication in response to operation of the means for prompting, wherein means for providing the stored keyboard input to the second widget further comprises means, recorded on the recording medium, for providing the stored keyboard input to the second widget in dependence upon the indication.

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17. The computer program product of claim 15 wherein means, recorded on the recording medium, for storing keyboard input intended by a user for a second widget when keyboard focus is on a first widget further comprises means, recorded on the recording medium, for reading keyboard input through a keyboard device driver.

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18. The computer program product of claim 15 wherein means, recorded on the recording medium, for storing keyboard input intended by a user for a second widget when keyboard focus is on a first widget further comprises means, recorded on the recording medium, for reading input data from a keyboard, including means, recorded on the recording medium, for reading the input in the absence of a read request for the keyboard device driver.
19. The computer program product of claim 15 wherein means, recorded on the recording medium, for changing keyboard focus further comprises means, recorded on the recording medium, for changing keyboard focus in response to the manipulation of at least one user input device.
20. The computer program product of claim 15 wherein the GUI includes a multiplicity of windows, the computer program product further comprising:
- means, recorded on the recording medium, for directing keyboard focus to a window having a keyboard focus policy and a multiplicity of widgets including the first widget and the second widget; and
- means, recorded on the recording medium, for directing keyboard focus to the first widget in dependence upon the keyboard focus policy of the window.